

**SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR MEASURING USAGE OF GATEWAY PROCESSES
UTILIZED IN MANAGING NETWORK ELEMENTS**

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system and method are disclosed which enable measurement of usage of one or more gateways in managing network elements. A system may include at least one gateway that is executable to maintain gateway usage information detailing the amount of usage of such gateway in managing network elements. Gateway usage may include, for example, gateway processing, such as handling of messages received by a gateway from one or more network elements. The gateway(s) may be communicatively coupled to a usage management system and may communicate usage information thereto. An Application Program Interface (API) may be implemented on a gateway, which may provide the functionality for maintaining a count of different types of usage that may occur thereon. The gateway may include software code that invokes the API upon occurrence of a particular type of usage, and the API may maintain a count of such particular type of usage.